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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 20, 1996, at 2 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1996

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and was called to order by the President protempore [Mr. Thurmond].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Father, our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble, we come to You just as we are, with the confidence that You will lift our hearts and prepare us for the day ahead. We can be honest with You about our real feelings, questions, and our deepest concerns.

Here in the Capitol, a place of great human power and powerful people, often we assume that we must suffer, weep, and struggle alone. Beneath the highly polished surface of our images of power, often there is an aching heart. Loneliness is no stranger, and sometimes discouragement and even despair become unwelcome guests in our heart. Our culture does not honor the expression of need or vulnerability.

Dear God, help us to be more sensitive with those who are hurting and those facing what seem to them to be insurmountable problems. Most of all, set us free to express our concerns and give reassurance in the midst of the battle with the forces of depression and despair.

This morning, there is a family on our hearts, the family of a distinguished naval officer. With one voice, we pray for the family of Adm. Jeremy "Mike" Boorda. Oh, Holy Comforter, bless his wife, Bettie, his children and grandchildren, now in their monumental grief over the admiral's untimely and inexplicable death. Comfort

and strengthen them in their time of immense loss, and encourage them with the lovely memories of his great life and leadership.

Now, Lord, be with the men and women of the Navy, their officers, and especially those who worked closely with the admiral.

We all press on with the challenges of this day and trust You more deeply, open ourselves to You more completely, and encourage and uplift one another more unreservedly. In Your holy name. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, Senator LOTT of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. I thank the Chair.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Senate will immediately begin consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 57, the concurrent budget resolution. Under the agreement of last night, there is a limited number of first-degree amendments in order to the resolution. Senators are urged to offer and debate those amendments either today or on Monday.

Further, Senators are reminded that there will be no rollcall votes either today or Monday so that we can complete the debate on these amendments and then enter into a series of votes on Tuesday. Any votes ordered on the amendments will occur on Tuesday,

and Senators can expect numerous votes Tuesday in order to complete action on the budget resolution.

Mr. President, I want to take just a moment to express our appreciation for the tremendous work that is being done by the chairman of the Budget Committee, the distinguished Senator from New Mexico, Mr. Domenici, working with his ranking member on the other side, Senator Exon. I know they are trying to move this very important piece of legislation forward. However, there now remains, at 9:30 this morning, 29 hours and 51 minutes to be consumed. We have a lot of work to do, and it is important that we continue to do that work and to use this time.

I want to emphasize that in the past I believe the record will show an average of probably at least 15 hours has been yielded back, and I think at least that much or more should be yielded back this time. I am troubled, and I think a lot of Senators are, that there seems to be some delay in moving this legislation through to completion. Let us make our case; let us offer our amendments; let us have our debate, but let us get this job done. I want to emphasize that the majority leader, Senator Dole. has indicated very strongly that we are going to finish this bill on Tuesday. Senators should be prepared to work in the effort to get that accomplished. I believe we have amendments in order now.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

